To apply for health care, veterans can now fill out and submit an easy-to-follow internet-based application form, which is automatically electronically mailed to the VA health care facility selected by the veteran. VA employees register the data, print the form and mail it back to the veteran for signature. Veterans can also print out the completed form and mail it to a VA health care facility themselves.

Since 1996, when all honorably discharged veterans became eligible to enroll for VA health care, more than a half-million additional veterans have done so. Why? Every VA patient now has a primary care provider and team. VA has computerized mail-out pharmacy services that ensure the timely delivery of drugs to patients. VA has instituted aggressive performance measures that have led to implementation of the best practices of government and private sector health care. On average, VA medical facilities now receive higher accreditation scores than do private sector facilities.

While this transformation was taking place, VA has become an industry leader in such areas as patient safety, surgical quality assessment, the computerization of medical records, telehealth, preventive screenings and immunizations.

There have been no big wars lately, no long lines of troops coming home, no welcoming parades necessary. As these events and the years that have followed have faded, the country asked. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as the country asked. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans. They now need our help, as veterans.
his tenure as President, he returns to the Laboratory as an Associate Laboratory Director, with an enthusiasm for nuclear energy that is fueled by his many experiences of the last year.

Always interested in the development of the professionals at the Laboratory, Jim has been an active and tireless supporter of the Idaho Section of the American Nuclear Society. His leadership of that section resulted in its award for Outstanding Section Management in 1992. The Idaho Section has won many awards in the last ten years and is considered to be truly one of the best in the society.

Jim Lake attended the Georgia Institute of Technology, receiving a Master's degree in 1969 and a Doctoral degree in 1972. He was elected a Distinguished Engineering Alumnus by Georgia Tech in 1992. Since 1972, Jim has been a member of the American Nuclear Society in 1992. He is the author of over thirty technical publications in the disciplines of reactor physics, nuclear engineering, and nuclear reactor design. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deep appreciation to Jim Lake for his outstanding service, for his leadership of the American Nuclear Society and in wishing him well in all future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM N. GUERTIN

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I am pleased today to commend Mr. William N. Guertin for his election as President of the American Association of Medical Society Executives and for his 30 years of service to the medical doctors of Alameda-Contra Costa counties and his many achievements.

Mr. Guertin has been a member of the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association, ACCMA, since 1971, and has held two executive offices, Assistant Executive Director and Executive Director. The ACCMA serves over 3,100 doctors and is the second largest medical association in California.

Mr. Guertin’s leadership supported many California doctors’ efforts to help, cure, and care for people in need of support and medical help. He has worked to create programs that promote public health, quality access to care, and professional standards in California. Mr. Guertin has worked to protect physicians from impositions that would interfere with their ability to interact successfully with their patients. Mr. Guertin created the first doctor-owned professional liability insurance carrier in California, at a time when doctors were not able to obtain the insurance necessary to practice quality medicine.

The practice of medicine has long been a profession of people who devote their time and effort to helping others. Mr. Guertin has worked tirelessly for the past 30 years to facilitate the work of physicians and to enhance the quality of care for the people of Alameda-Contra Costa counties.

For these reasons, I congratulate Mr. Guertin on his new position as President of the American Association of Medical Society Executives. I am confident that Mr. Guertin will succeed in his new position and work to augment the lives of patients and physicians throughout the Nation.

JAN KARSKI—A QUIET HERO

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, today I remind my colleagues of a story I read in the New York Times almost exactly one year ago today. It was the July 15, 2000, obituary of a man named Jan Karski. I was absolutely fascinated by this man’s life story and with the first paragraph of the obituary. I am reminded of the role he played in our modern history. Like few others, he had an unique window view into an appalling and shameful era of history—the Holocaust. Let me explain.

During World War II, the one questions Mr. Karski brought to the Allied leaders in the West—and at no small risk to his own life—what is believed to be the first eyewitness reports of Hitler’s indecipherable acts of hate and cruelty against the Jews. In 1942, Jewish resistance leaders asked Jan, then a 28-year-old courier for the Polish underground, to be their voice to the West—to convey to the Allies an actual eyewitness account of the Jewish genocide in Europe.

He readily accepted this dreadful task, as he knew that someone had to tell the world exactly what was happening in Europe. Though he succeeded in relaying the nightmarish sights to the West, his reports were met initially by indifference. While many others eventually would confirm Jan’s horrifying accounts of the Jewish concentration camps and the Warsaw Ghetto in Poland, he was one of the first—and one of very few—to take a stand against these atrocities.

We are discovering that Jan’s voice was not the only warning of the wholesale slaughter of innocent human life by Nazi Germany. As we speak, a dedicated group of individuals, both in government and in the private sector, are declassifying and releasing to the public thousands and thousands of pages of previously classified material about Nazi war criminals, persecution, and lootings. This effort is the result of the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act—legislation I wrote into law with my friends and colleagues from New York, Senator PATRICK MOYNIHAN and Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY.

Just this past April, in fact, our law made history with the release of 10,000 pages of previously classified Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, files on 20 key figures from the Nazi party, including Adolf Hitler, Klaus Barbie, Adolf Eichmann, Kurt Waldheim, Heinrich Mueller, and Josef Mengele. And, prior to that last summer, 400,000 pages of other historical documents were released.

A number of those documents contained information that Fritz Kolbe provided to U.S. intelligence authorities in 1943. Mr. Kolbe was a member of the German resistance and worked in the German Foreign Office. Code-named “George Wood,” Mr. Kolbe put his life on the line by traveling to Switzerland, carrying highly sensitive information on Nazi activities for delivery to U.S. intelligence agents. A complete set of these documents in translation is now available for historical review. Also available in its entirety is the U.S. State Department’s complete debrief of Mr. Kolbe from September 1945. This document shows that he did not act alone, but relied on what he called his “Inner Circle,” which consisted of as many as 20 other Germans. The names of these individuals are not well known members of the resistance—they are ordinary people, like Jan Karski.

While the gruesome reality of Nazi Germany eventually became clear to the world and as the Allies acted to end Hitler’s evil regime, Jan’s job—his mission—never really ended. For the rest of his life, he carried with him the sights, the sounds, the smells, and the sadness of the Holocaust. Karski, himself, once said: “This sin will haunt humanity to the end of time. It does haunt me. And, I want it to be so.”

Jan Karski wanted us all to be haunted by the Holocaust. He wanted us never to forget. He devoted his life to ensuring that such inhuman horror would be present forever in our collective conscience, so that we, above all else, will never let this dark chapter in our history ever, ever repeat itself.

We often think of heroes in terms of epic feats on the battlefield or in the face of great danger. Jan Karski is no less a hero for giving a voice to a silent slaughter. I ask my colleagues to think about that and to take some time to consider the life of Jan Karski and the life of Fritz Kolbe. Their stories, along with others newly discovered, help fill the holes of history, while revisiting a fundamental, troubling question of what the West knew about the Holocaust and when we knew it.

I encourage my colleagues to learn more about Jan and Fritz. Read last year’s New York Times obituary about Jan’s life. Talk about his story with your families. To understand the Holocaust is to remember the lives of Jan Karski and Fritz Kolbe—to remember—“always remember,” as Jan would say—what their sacrifices meant—and still mean—for our world.